metro

PHILADELPHIA NO. 1 FREE DAILY IN THE US

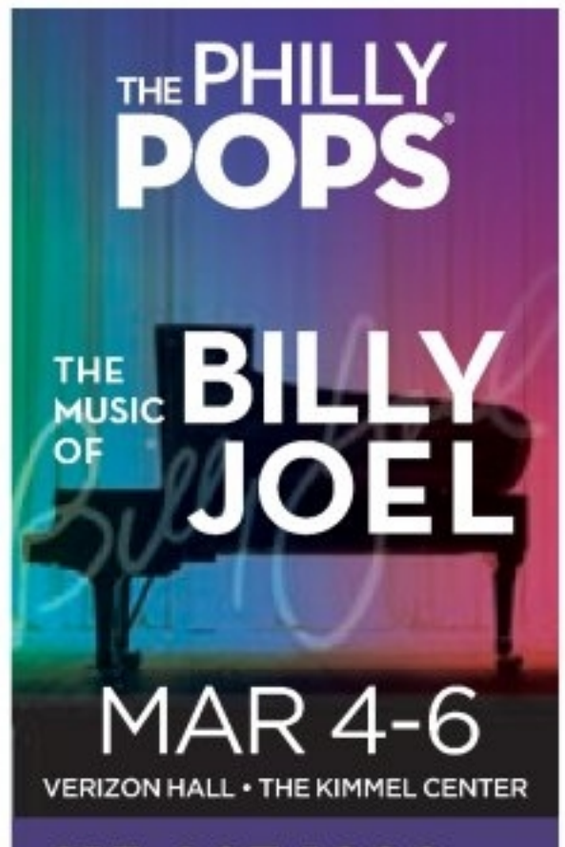
Thursday, February 25, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

WHAT TO MESSAGE YOUR MATCH

Our dating blogger reveals her fail-proof approach. 13

Ty Dolla $ign wants to inspire change. 15

Eagles could make progress on QB this week. 19



FLIPPIN' FOR 'PIPPIN'

Camden theater students were inspired on Wednesday when Broadway performers paid them a visit. 8-9

MICHELLE GUSTAFSON

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BLATTER BAN SHORTENED

1 FIFA's appeal committee has upheld bans on Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini for ethics violations but reduced them to six years from eight. "The FIFA Appeal Committee, chaired by Larry Mussenden, has partially confirmed the decisions taken by the adjudicatory chamber of the independent Ethics Committee on 17 and 18 December 2015 regarding Joseph S. Blatter and Michel Platini respectively, whose bans have been reduced from eight to six years," it said in a statement. REUTERS

NOROVIRUS SYMPTOMS

2 At least 200 students at an Ohio public university have reported symptoms of the highly contagious norovirus. Reports of the outbreak at Miami University started last Tuesday when five students came into a school health center at the Oxford, Ohio, main campus, located about 35 miles north of Cincinnati, complaining of stomach pain, nausea, diarrhea and vomiting, university spokeswoman Carole Johnson said. Since the initial reports, a number of students have tested positive for norovirus, Johnson said. REUTERS

INSTAGRAM ADVERTISERS

3 Five months ago, Facebook Inc. began trying to transform its picture-sharing app, Instagram, into a money-making business. Since then, Instagram has attracted more than 200,000 advertisers, the company announced Wednesday, a clear sign of its potential for significantly contributing to Facebook's revenue. REUTERS

Five-year-old Lossetteo waits patiently for a treat.
PENNSYLVANIA SPCA
7 A 12-year-old O.J. snuggles with behavior and enrichment coordinator Staci Papadoplos at the PSPCA on Wednesday.
7 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

MAIN PHOTOS BY RANDI FAIR, ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

STABBED, HIT BY HAMMER

4 A man is facing criminal charges for hitting one dog with a hammer and stabbing her while not providing care for two other dogs, the PSPCA announced. Brandon Cramer, a resident of Saylorsburg, is now charged with four counts of animal cruelty.

SAM NEWHOUSE

PSPCA

DRUNK NURSE IN SURGERY

5 An eastern Pennsylvania nurse has been charged with crimes related to allegedly being drunk while assisting during a surgery. Nurse Richard J. Pieri, 59, of Drums, admitted to having between four and five beers at Mohegan Sun Pocono casino on the night of Feb. 4, Allentown's Morning Call reported. He claimed to have forgotten that he was on call at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center near Plains Township.

JASON NUCKOLLS

GOV. WOLF HAS CANCER

6 Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf announced Wednesday that he has been diagnosed with a treatable form of prostate cancer. Gov. Wolf said that the cancer was detected early, but it will require treatments that will last for the next several months, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported. Wolf added that the treatment will not affect his performance as governor, ABC stated in a related article. He is expected to begin treatment in the coming weeks after spending time with his family. JASON NUCKOLLS

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Philadelphia's power broker punches his way into probe

Government agencies, including the FBI, are investigating a physical altercation between a union business manager and a non-union worker during a site dispute.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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One of Philly's most powerful men is facing a possible criminal case for a bout of old-fashioned fisticuffs.

John "Johnny Doc" Dougherty, the business manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 98 and Philadelphia Building Trades Council and long reputed as a dominant figure in Philly politics, is now under a microscope after the Inquirer broke the news that he had allegedly punched a non-union worker during a construction site dispute.

The case is now being investigated by the state Attorney General's office, as Philly DA Seth Williams recused his office, citing possible conflicts due to campaign contributions from Dougherty. AG Kathleen Kane also won't touch the case for the same reason.

The FBI may also be investigating, the Inquirer reported, based on reports that they requested surveillance video from a business owner near the site.

In an interview with PhillyVoice, Dougherty said an Inquirer story about the punch-up was "irresponsible" and "disingenuous" and claimed he was acting in self-defense when he punched non-union contractor Joshua Keesee.

The fracas took place on Jan. 21 around 8:20 a.m. at a South Philly construction site near Third and Reed streets that Local 98 members have protested at in the past for employing non-union labor.

Accounts differ over the sequence of events, but Keesee reportedly had a Local 98 sticker on his car, which he was ordered to remove. When one Local 98 member started scraping it off, Keesee allegedly punched the man. A few moments later, as the Local 98 members retreated, Keesee and Dougherty got into a verbal altercation which ended with both men throwing punches and Dougherty landing two blows on Keesee.

It's unclear if the entire mess can actually touch Dougherty, who has a reputation in Philly as a mayor-maker.

When he's not advocating for more state funding to go through IBEW to solar power projects, Dougherty has been known for blasting the city for the Salvation Army building collapse and calling former Mayor Michael Nutter a "flat-out fraud" on Facebook in the collapse's aftermath.

He is the brother of newly elected state Supreme Court Judge Kevin Dougherty.

IBEW Local 98's Business Manager John Dougherty speaks at a news conference. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

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Friends remember Harry Jay Katz

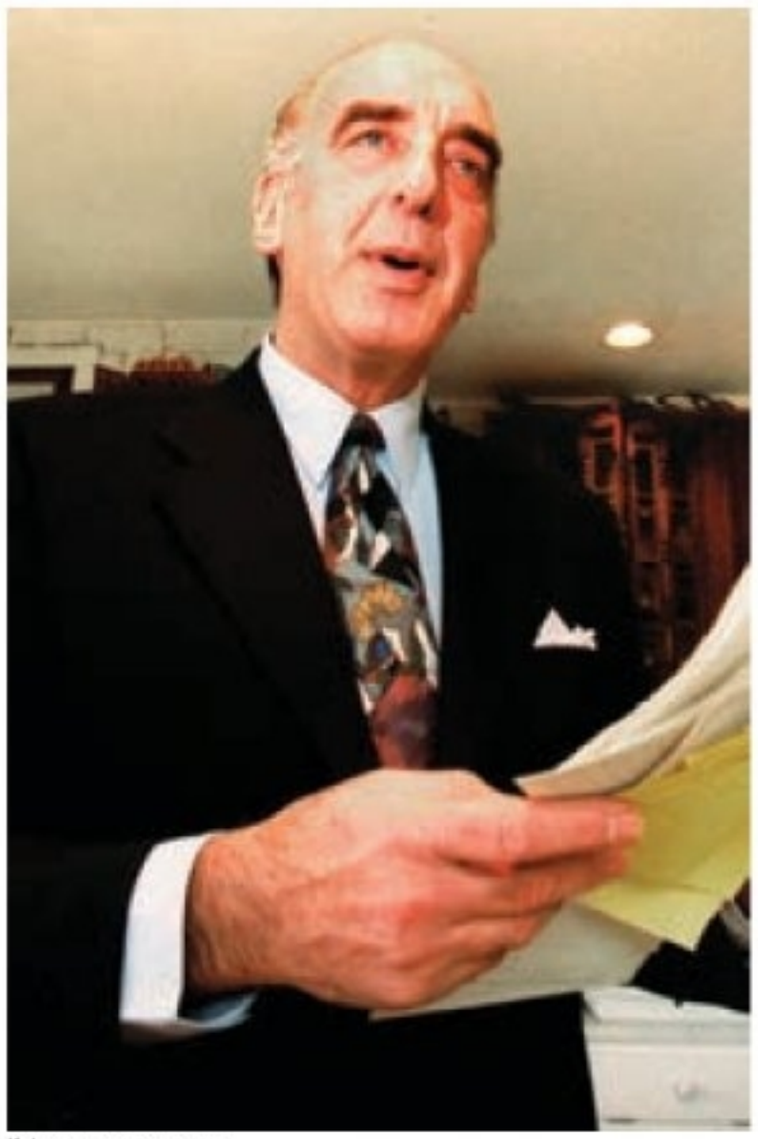
Philadelphia's "playboy" died Wednesday at the age of 75, leaving behind a complicated legacy.

JENNY DEHUFF
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Harry Jay Katz, whose celebrity in Philadelphia centered on chasing fame as much as he chased women, was being mourned by friends Wednesday.

Katz, 75, died peacefully, with his wife, Debra, by his side, on Tuesday at Einstein Medical Center in Elkins Park.

During his life, Katz "was known for being" a "playboy," failed restaurateur and nightclub owner, newspaper columnist, lover of booze and spoiled brat, among others, including a diehard advocate of the City of Brotherly Love and all things Philly. In 1999, he penned a piece for the Philadelphia Inquirer titled, "Put 'Rocky' Back Where He Belongs."



Katz PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

It was right after the Rocky statue had been moved from the Philadelphia Museum of Art to the (now defunct) Spectrum, and in it he demanded that Rocky be returned to the pinnacle of the Art Museum steps.

He had friends and he had enemies.

Some would argue more of the latter as he got on in years and bolstered his reputation.

Here are sentiments from some confidants reached by Metro on Wednesday.

• **Philadelphia Daily News Columnist Stu Bykofsky:** "Harry Jay Katz was a mountain — so large he created his own climate.

"Sometimes he brought out the sun, sometimes storm and thunder.

"The sunshine was his sense of humor — he was very sharp — the thunder was the fights and feuds he had.

"When he liked someone, he was a 'super guy, a super, super, super guy.'

"If he didn't like, 'he's a shit.'

"Unlike Will Rogers, Harry did meet some men he didn't like. He was an intensely loyal friend and very thoughtful with his friends and family. He was extremely close to his children.

"Along the way he got into some jams and did some bad things.

"Who hasn't?"

• "I was saddened to hear about the death of my good friend Harry. Harry was a true Philadelphian, through and through. He represented a class and style, which Philly is all about. He was flamboyant, outrageous at times, generous to a fault and truly will be remembered as a legendary Philadelphian — the same as Frank Rizzo, Ben Gimble, Jim Tate, Frank Palumbo and other Philadelphians who shared the same passion and love that he had for the city. I can see him up in heaven having a cocktail and a cigar with Peter and Paul, Moses and Abraham. One last word Harry: You did keep on rockin', because you did realize that you only rock once. One last word: Make sure you save me a great bottle of wine up there." — **Geator Gold Radio DJ Jerry Blavat, aka "The Geator with The Heater" and "The Boss with the Hot Sauce"**

• "He always said, 'any publicity is good publicity — no matter how negative.'

• "If Harry Jay Katz hadn't had all the money his parents gave him, he probably would have been more successful. He had the brains, the moxie, the gift of gab — he had all the rest. ... He always had that cushion, and he always relied on that cushion where he didn't have to be successful. He could just act successful and he wasn't success at a lot of things." — **Eddie Greves, former owner of nightclub Fast Eddie's at 18th and Sansom streets in the 1970s**

• "He wasn't perfect, but Harry Jay Katz was a true original, and a loyal friend. Philadelphia won't be the same without a character like Harry." — **Twitter post by Dan Gross, former Philadelphia Daily New gossip columnist**

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Camden theater students meet Broadway actors

The Broadway cast of "Pippin" thrills Camden Catholic High School students with talk, demonstration.

JENNY DEHUFF
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

About 50 theater students from Camden Catholic High School got a special treat Wednesday when they were allowed to leave class and meet the Broadway stars of "Pippin," the Tony-award-winning musical which runs now through Sunday at the Academy of Music.

The students are currently in rehearsals for their own high school production of "Pippin," and got the chance to meet the Broadway actors and acrobats who play their own characters, but on a national stage.

Jeff Fitzpatrick and Sarah Robbins, both juniors at Camden Catholic, play King Charlemagne and the beautiful Fastrada, respectively, in "Pippin." They both met their Broadway counterparts and got quite the thrill, they said.

"It's pretty cool considering when I'm doing it onstage, it's hard," Fitzpatrick said.

"When we were told about this, we were ecstatic. It's not something you get to do that often," he said of meeting Broadway actors.

"It's a whole other side of myself."
Robbins

John Rubinstein plays the Broadway version of King Charlemagne in "Pippin" and offered his younger version some friendly advice.

"If you have trouble breathing, that's a very important thing. You have to figure out where to breathe and practice it," he said.

"You have to do it the same way every day. I've done shows where I run

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Aggrenox 200/25mg	200	$124.99	Onglyza 5mg	84	$294.99
Entocort 3mg	100	$114.99	Aciphex 20mg	100	$74.99
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Januvia 100mg	84	$214.99			
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Theater students at Camden Catholic High School listen to Nico Maffey. MICHELLE GUSTAFSON

out of breath, and that's no good. You have to figure it out. You practice it like a dance move."

Sabrina Harper plays the role of Fastrada and has been a part of "Pippin" since it opened on Broadway three years ago.

"It was a dream come true when 'Pippin' was announced to come to Broadway, and I happened to be in the city and auditioned for it. I'm a trained dancer. I grew up dancing, singing and acting. My mom was very well involved in acting. Similarly, my mom was very involved in the theater," she told Metro.

"I'm so happy to be in Philadelphia, and this theater is just one of the most beautiful theaters that I've seen all across the country."

Robbins admitted that when she first learned her school was putting on the show, she was "scared" and "intimidated."

"I know I can't dance. This doesn't seem like something for me. So when I auditioned, I thought, I'll just put it all out there. When I found out I got Fastrada, I was honestly shocked," she said.

Acrobats Nicolas Jelmonu performed on the Cyr Wheel and Nico Maffey wowed students when he hand-balanced on canes Wednesday. Both are members of the Montreal-based circus company Les 7 doigts de la main (aka 7 Fingers). Both, along with each actor, gave the students a demonstration and talk about how they performed during every performance, as well as a Q&A.

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Surge confounds rivals, makes Trump betting favorite

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks at a caucus night watch party at the Treasure Island Hotel & Casino on Feb. 23, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. GETTY IMAGES

The billionaire swept Nevada by 22 percentage points, winning 45.9 percent of the vote.

Donald Trump inched closer to the Republican presidential nomination as his odds shot to a record high on global betting websites Wednesday and he won his first endorsement from a member of Congress.

The outspoken businessman easily won the Nevada caucuses Tuesday, giving him his third win in four early nominating contests and pressuring Republican rivals to come up with a way to stop a candidate who last year was not seen as a serious contender for the Nov. 8 presidential election.

Trump's Nevada win is likely to further frustrate Republican establishment figures who were hoping his campaign as a political outsider was stalled after he lost the opening nominating contest in Iowa to Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

In his Nevada victory speech, the former reality TV star courted his base of blue-collar workers.

"I love the poorly educated," he said, mentioning several demographic groups among whom he said he was winning.

By Wednesday, that phrase was being widely discussed online, with some finding it funny and others arguing it a welcome, nonjudgmental embrace of a constituency other politicians might speak of only as a problem to be fixed.

Trump's nearest rivals, Cruz and Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, have frequently attacked each other, clearing a path for Trump to the nomination.

On Wednesday, New York Rep. Chris Collins, a Republican from Trump's home state, became the first national lawmaker to endorse Trump, saying "it's time to say no to professional politicians and yes to someone who has created jobs and grown a business."

Speaking earlier Wednesday, Trump called endorsements a "waste of time" that "mean very little" in an ABC interview.

"These guys have to figure out how to turn their fire on Trump ... Which one is going to get out of this field?"

Ford O'Connell, a Republican strategist in Washington.

Betting venues in Britain, Ireland and New Zealand show the online wagering community coalescing around Trump, once considered an interloper, attracting longshot odds of 200-1. Odds for Trump becoming the Republican candidate have tightened all the way to 1-2 in some cases.

Polls show Trump ahead in most Super Tuesday states, placing further pressure on Cruz and Rubio. REUTERS

Connecticut prosecutors ask court to order Kennedy kin back to jail

Michael Skakel GETTY IMAGES

Connecticut prosecutors asked the state's top court Wednesday to return Kennedy family member Michael Skakel to prison to finish the 20-year sentence imposed after a court found him guilty in 2002 of a murder four decades ago.

Skakel, the nephew of Ethel Kennedy, widow of slain Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has been free on a $1.2 million bond since 2013. He had served 11 years in prison for fatally beating Martha Moxley, his neighbor in Greenwich, Connecticut, with a golf club when both were 15 years old.

Skakel, now 55, was convicted in 2002 and sentenced to 20 years in prison. An appeals court overturned his conviction in 2013 after he argued that his trial lawyer did a poor job.

The Connecticut Supreme Court heard the state's appeal of that decision on Wednesday.

"This was far from a slipshod defense. This was a well-planned, well-thought-out defense," said Susann Gill, a supervisory assistant state's attorney.

During the trial, prosecutors presented evidence from three people who knew Skakel and said that he had admitted to the killing, Gill said. Skakel's attorneys questioned the reliability of these witnesses, noting that two had been fellow patients at a controversial and violent drug-treatment facility Skakel had been sent to in the late 1970s.

"It has always mystified me that there was a myth that has come up that this was a weak case," Gill said. "It was not."

Skakel's current attorney, Hubert Santos, argued that his client's original lead attorney squandered resources during the trial and was more focused on winning fame than his client's freedom. He contended Skakel's trial defense team should have presented evidence of other suspects in the case, including Skakel's brother, Thomas, who was never charged. REUTERS

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Kesha's squad of supporters grows

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

While Kesha may have lost her court battle to break her contract with Sony and alleged rapist Dr. Luke, she has gained a number of famous friends. The latest to speak out on Kesha's behalf include "Law & Order: SVU" star Mariska Hargitay, who tweeted, "For many survivors, speaking out is the hardest part. It's also only the first step. Sending you strength, Kesha, as you move through this."

Producer Jack Antonoff offered to work with her behind Sony's back, though making that offer via Twitter might not have been the brightest idea: "Hey Kesha, don't know what the legal specifics are, but if you want to make something together and then leak it for everyone, I'm around."

But it was Antonoff's girlfriend, Lena Dunham, who lent the lengthiest support, penning in her newsletter, "What's happening to Kesha highlights the way that the American legal system continues to hurt women by failing to protect them from the men they identify as their abusers. These women deserve better."

the word

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Bad news for Gladys Knight's Chicken and Waffles restaurant

Singer Gladys Knight is facing something of a headache, as one Atlanta location of her Gladys Knight's Chicken and Waffles restaurant chain has failed a health inspection, scoring an unimpressive 56 out of 100. Last April the same location scored a 94.

So what's the health department taking issue with, specifically? Oh, just some problems like a cooler with a missing door and some issues with proper hand-washing. Just that. The location is due for another inspection within 10 days to see if addressed the issues are resolved, but this can't be pleasant for Knight.

Kanye's new game is entertaining Twitter rants

You'll probably have a hard time believing this, but Kanye West is upset and letting his frustrations out in a series of tweets. Apparently veteran music producer Bob Ezrin had the gall to publish a review of "The Life of Pablo" that didn't dub it the most important work of art in history. "Has anybody ever heard of Bob Ezrin? What the f— does he know about rap?" West tweeted. "I'm tired of old people that have no connection with anything trying to comment on music." Hey, he at least offered to help out Ezrin's kids by sending "them free Yeezys to make up for the embarrassment that you have caused your family."

Why Chrissy Teigen chose to have a girl

As Chrissy Teigen revealed back in December, she and husband John Legend are awaiting the arrival of a baby girl. But it turns out, she reveals now, that the gender of their first child was totally intentional. "I've made this decision," Teigen tells People magazine.

"Not only am I having a girl, but I picked the girl from her little embryo. I picked her and was like, 'Let's put in the girl.' I think I was most excited and allured by the fact that John would be the best father to a little girl. That excited me. It excited me to see ... just the thought of seeing him with a little girl. I think he deserves a little girl. I think he deserves that bond."

@ChloeGMoretz
Wanting to buy some art work.. Anyone have any ideas on new interesting artists? Or new photographers I can get some great prints?

@AZEALIABANKS
I can count on one hand the amount of times I remember being hugged by my mom as a child. Yikes

@lenadunham
The guy at the bodega on my block thinks I'm the star of 2 Broke Girls and I'm not correcting him

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Why you should never say 'hey' to an online dating match

LAURIE DAVIS

Single and Swiping

Laurie Davis is the founder of eFlirt, an online dating concierge service, and the best-selling author of "Love @ First Click: The Ultimate Guide to Online Dating."

The equation to messaging success: Connect + ask. ISTOCK

Last week, I took a peek at the messages my client was getting on Tinder, and they looked something like this: "Hey." "Hi." "Hello beautiful." "Oh hello there."

I'm sure you know what this looks like because these are probably the same types of messages you're receiving — and sending.

But here's the thing: Saying "hey" doesn't work — at all. The dating app Hinge tested 100 opening lines and found that "hey" increases people's response rates ... exactly zero.

People feel indifferent about "hey," which means it doesn't inspire a response. And when getting offline for a date is the goal, a response is a must so you can eventually meet. You can swipe right all you want, but if no one is replying to your messages, dating apps won't change your dating life.

So how do you stand out from the other "hellos" and snag more date nights? At eFlirt, we find that what works best for our clients on apps is a simple equation: Connect + ask.

Connect over something you have in common.
Since many people don't write bios on dating apps (though you absolutely should, so people can more easily connect with you), look for indicators in your matches' photos. What do you have in common? Start there and pick something conversation-worthy.

Ask a question so it's easy to respond.
Without a question, you're not really beginning a conversation. A statement doesn't require an action, so it's much less likely your match will act with a reply.

So next time your match posts a pic of herself running, try, "Did my first half this year. How many finish lines have you crossed?"

Or if he has a photo of himself at a sushi restaurant, go with, "Dynamite roll or spicy tuna?"

When you connect and ask, it's similar to real-life conversation. At a bar, you might ask a cutie, "What are you drinking?" Your point of connection and question may be more casual bar-side, but it's a similar approach. When you mimic offline life in your digital dating life, you get closer to connecting face-to-face.

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With its historical homes and family friendly nature, Fairmount embodies the Danish idea of "hygge" (pronounced who-guh). Roughly translating to coziness or the creation of a warm atmosphere, this idea was the jumping-off point for Bar Hygge, an inviting new bar, restaurant and brewery on Fairmount Avenue.

After a few bottles of wine, two restaurant running couples and friends – Tom Baker and Peggy Zwerver of Mount Airy's Earth Bread + Brewery, and Julie and Stew Keener, owners of Conshohocken's Baggataway Tavern – decided to collaborate on the concept at 1720 Fairmount Ave.

Now the raw space has been kitted out with a whiskey barrel-lined walls, a cozy lounge, bar and dining room, as well as a sizable brewery for Baker to work his magic.

"Tom never brews the same beer twice," Julie Keener says. "He has complete freedom to do whatever her wants back there and we'll supplement it with guest beers. For all intents and purposes, we are a brewpub – but we consider ourselves a restaurant that just happens to have really good beer. You're not going to come here and always find the same lineup of an IPA, a lager and a stout."

Known for his esoteric brewing style, Baker's draft list includes rarely seen styles like a Baltic porter brewed with sweet-tart balsamic and a house pale ale dry-hopped with heady Amarillo hops. Six house beers are joined by four guest taps hosting local brews from PBC and some West Coast favorites via San Diego's Alesmith. Behind the bar there's also a focus on locally distilled spirits and small production wines.

Tapping chef Chris Galbraith, a New York import, was a natural move for this beer-centric spot. "When I first got into cooking, my dream was to own my own brewpub," Galbraith explains. But it's his fine dining background combined with a few years spent in commissary kitchens that sets his menu apart from other pubs in town.

"We're excited that people seem to have their eyes on Fairmount again."

Julie Keener

With customizable boards featuring house-cured meats, locally sourced cheeses and vegetable options that bypass the pedestrian pickle, Galbraith's opening lineup caters to curious carnivores and adventurous vegans alike.

His wings are a take on chicken and waffles, dredged in waffle batter, tempura fried and finished with house hot sauce and maple syrup; and his sliders are made meatless with smoked mushrooms and a mayoless slaw on housemade buns.

Plates are sharable, beers come in two sizes for sampling and the TV-free space is designed to promote togetherness, a "hygge" philosophy that's welcome in this close-knit community.

Ty Dolla $ign: Voluntarily role model

The rapper is on tour with Future, collaborating with Kanye and trying to turn around America's youth.

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The 30-year-old artist is making change. GETTY

Ty Dolla $ign is having a great time.

The 30-year-old rapper (born Tyrone Griffin Jr.) is on tour with Future following the November release of his album "Free TC" from Atlantic Records. The L.A.-based artist and his tour mate have worked with the likes of Chris Brown, Curren$y and Jeremih and consider each other old friends. "Every night's been a party so far," Ty tells us.

On a personal level, his life is more complicated. The new album's title is in reference to Ty's brother, vocalist Big TC, who is in prison for a murder he claims he did not commit. Tracks like "LA" featuring Grammy winner Kendrick Lamar speak to the subject of mass incarceration of African-American men.

"What else can I do but comment on it?" he says. "Not everybody has that opportunity."

Ty also hosts speaking engagements about wrongful incarceration. "I've gone into schools, juvenile halls and boys' and girls' clubs to try and give them hope, some alternatives. There's nothing else to do in our communities than to get up to dumb s—t. I come from that same place. There are possibilities."

Being a role model and a community leader was not something that he imagined for himself, but "sometimes whether you imagine that gig or not, you have it," he says. "So why not do some real good?"

Lest anyone think "Free TC" is purely gloomily politicized, there's more than a little romantic soul — '90s style — as Ty enlists the help of R&B crooners Babyface, Jagged Edge and R. Kelly on several cuts.

"I didn't want this album to be all preachy and sad," he explains. "I didn't want to bore people or look for sympathy. The soul stuff? I grew up listening to R. Kelly and these guys. My pops always played me Babyface records."

Kanye West also appears on the "Free TC" track "Guard Down," which also features Diddy. In return, Ty appears on West's "The Life of Pablo" song "Real Friends."

Even as West has gained a rep for being difficult, Ty has nothing but love for his fellow artist. "I've always been a fan of his, back to the beginning. And he was totally cool with me as well — going back-and-forth on each other's tracks. I'm sure we're going to do more songs together in the future."

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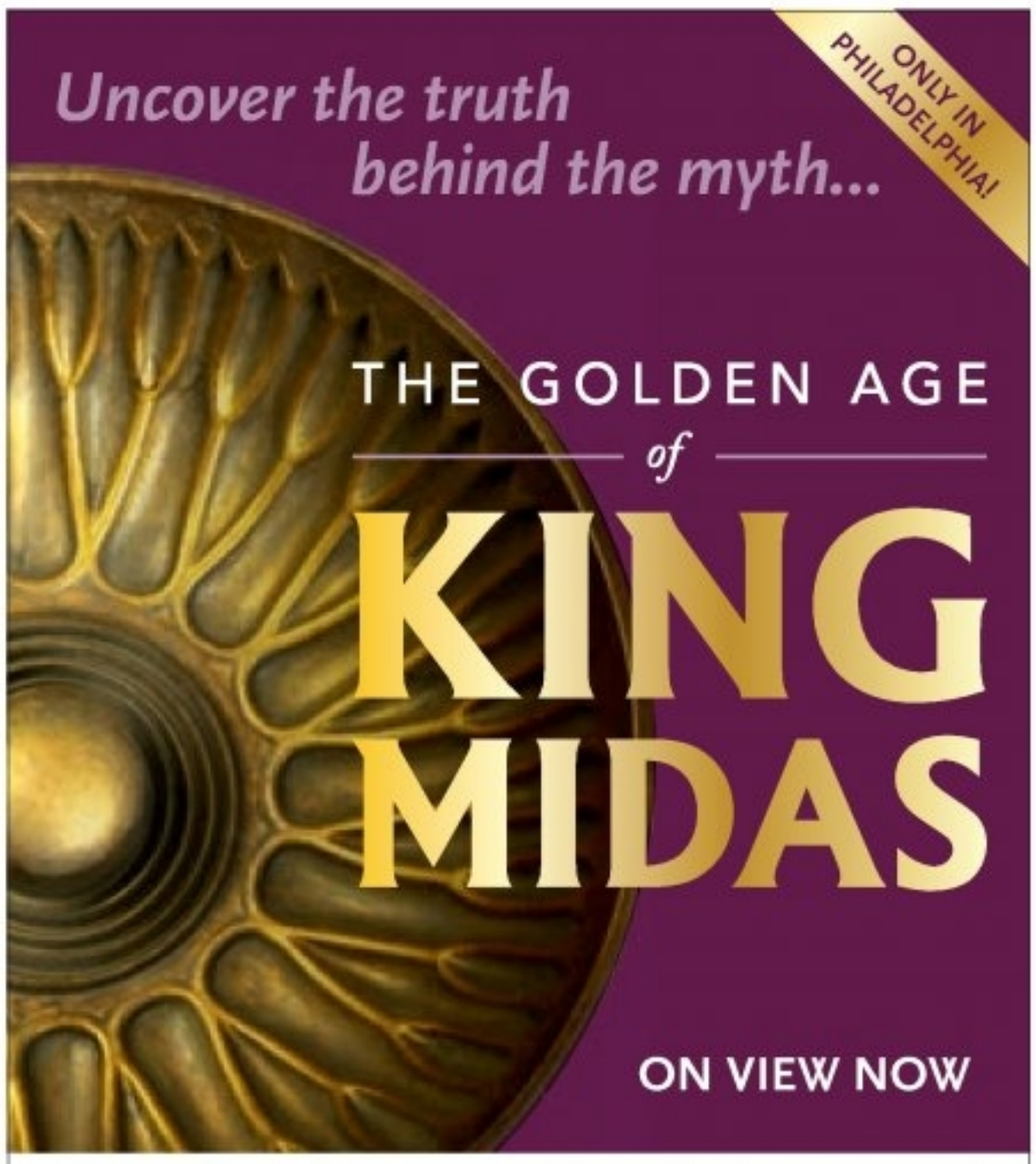

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ART

International Pop

Thursday through May 15
Philadelphia Museum of Art
2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy.
Free with admission
Philamuseum.org
Over 120 works from 1956 to 1972 make up this exhibit that explores the Pop art movement and its relationship to commercialization in international societies. Giants like Warhol and Jasper Johns are represented, as well as lesser-known artists from Brazil, Japan and more.

FOOD

Second Annual Girl Scout Cookie Crunch

Sunday, 1 p.m.
ArtsQuest Center
101 Founders Way, Bethlehem
From $21, Steelstacks.org
Willing to drive for a delicious Sunday? The Second Annual Girl Scout Cookie Crunch features restaurants in the region that all feature at least one type of Girl Scout Cookie incorporated into sweet and savory dishes. Attendees will be able to taste each dish and vote for their favorites. Proceeds benefit the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania.

THEATRE

"Smoke"

Thursday through March 13
Studio X
1340 S. 13th St.
From $10, Theatreexile.org
Written by playwright Kim Davies, "Smoke" is an erotic thriller set in a New York City sex party, where the two protagonists separate from the rest of the group, playing out a more dangerous, psychological struggle for dominance. A few comedic moments lighten the mood.

"Spine"

Thursday through March 6
The Drake
1512 Spruce St.
From $5 with donation of a children's book, Inisnuatheatre.org
"Spine" follows a directionless teenager as she befriends an elderly woman who lives in a house full to the brim with books during a time when a strapped British government has cut funding for libraries. This is the first show in the Drake for theater company Inis Nua, which focuses on contemporary works written in the British Isles. Book donations benefit the Free Library of Philadelphia.

TERRY SHAPRIO

THEATRE

"Pippin"

Thursday through Feb. 28
Academy of Music
240 S Broad St.
From $28, Kimmelcenter.org
"Pippin" is a Broadway show set in the Middle Ages amidst mysterious circumstances that combines acrobatics, wondrous feats of agility and an uplifting score from the composer of "Wicked." This production won a 2013 Tony for Best Musical Revival.

MUSIC

Straighten Up and Fly Right: The Nat King Cole Tribute

Friday, 8 p.m.
Merriam Theater
250 S. Broad St.
From $30, Kimmelcenter.org
Pianist Ramsey Lewis and guitarist John Pizzarelli perform a tribute to the smooth vocals and jazz sensibilities of the breaker of pop music barriers, Nat King Cole. Named after Cole's first mainstream hit, this show explores the many genres within the singer's expansive repertoire, nodding to his talent and debonair personality.

Naughty By Nature

Sunday, 8 p.m.
Theater of the Living Arts
334 South St.
$20, Venue.tlaphilly.com
Hip-hop giants of the '90s Naughty By Nature play the last show of their 2016 tour. The trio hopes to produce another album to celebrate 25 years of the band, and have created a Kickstarter to ask for fans' support. Ty Dolla $ign, Darq and Dirty South Joe take this lineup to the next level.

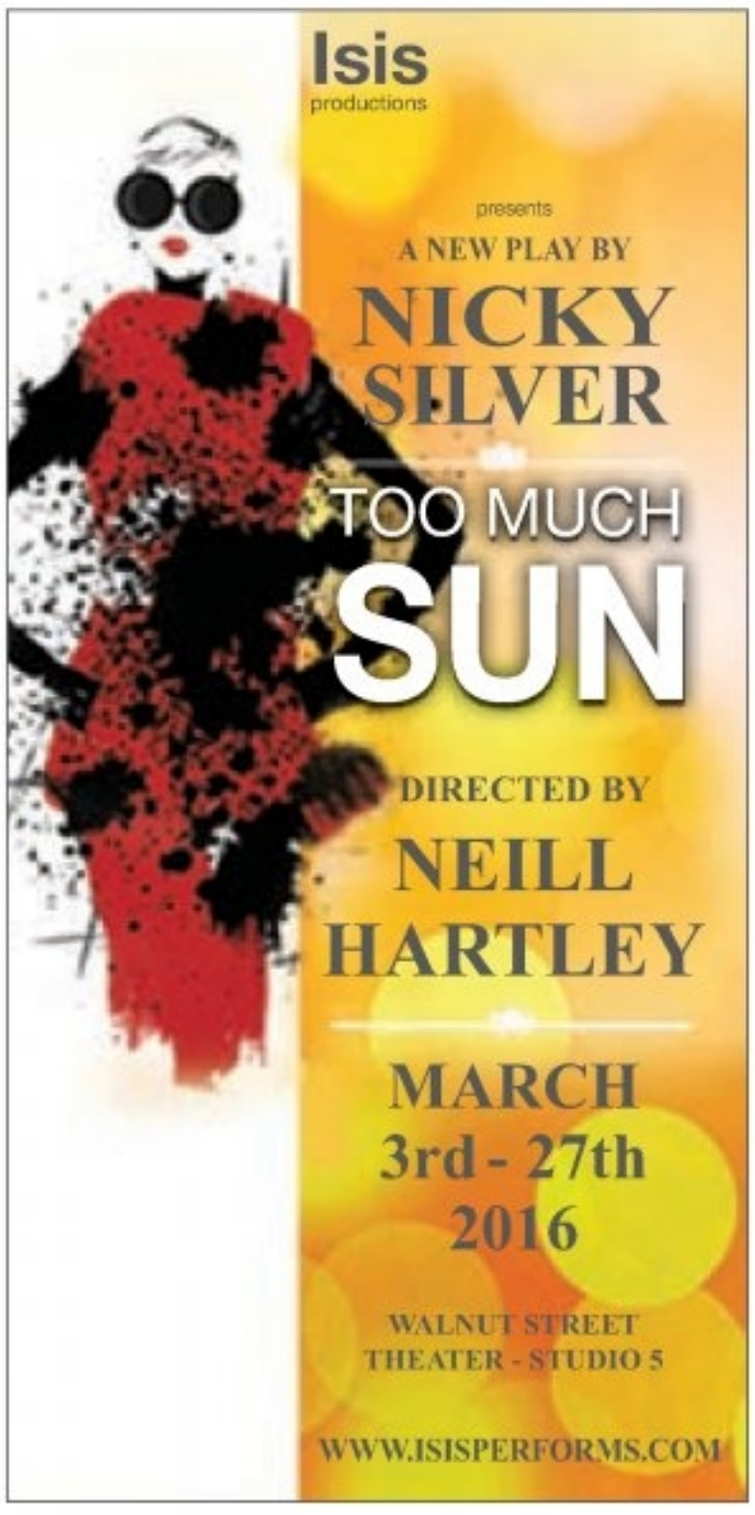
FILM

Oscar Party with Joan Schuylkill Rivers

Sunday, 7:30 p.m.
Venice Island Performing Arts and Recreation Center
7 Lock St.
Free, Veniceisland.org
Watch the 88th Academy Awards with your host Joan Schuylkill Rivers, brought to life by Philly performer Mistor Fahrenheit. Walk the red carpet, and expect to be grilled by Rivers on who you're wearing. Academy Awards trivia, prizes and humor are in store.

"Metropolis"

Saturday, 8 p.m.
Verizon Hall
300 S. Broad St.
$15, Kimmelcenter.org
This 1927 silent film by Fritz Lang Depicting depicts a dystopia city replete with stark contrasts between the elite and a mistreated working class. Peter Richard Conte will accompany the movie on Verizon Hall's impressive organ, adding depth to this classic piece. At 1 p.m. Rudy Lucente will give a free demonstration of the organ. SYDNEY SLOTKIN



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3 Things to do in Jamaica this winter

Why you should visit one of the Caribbean's most appealing and accessible locales.

Fodor's Travel

From Montego Bay and Ocho Rios to Negril, scores of new and newly-renovated hotels opened their doors in Jamaica in 2015 and are on the docket for 2016 and beyond. Tourism is booming, but despite the crowds at the island's most popular locales, authentic experiences still await visitors. Here are three reasons to visit Jamaica now.

For even more reasons to visit Jamaica and tips on what to do there, go to Fodors.com ISTOCK

Glistening Waters Luminous Lagoon

Even if you've already witnessed water aglow with the phenomenon of bioluminescence, we're willing to bet you've never seen the effect quite as intensely as in this bay near Falmouth. Tours happen after dark, when a five-minute boat trip from an old-school marina delivers you into a different world entirely. The presence of tiny marine organisms called dinoflagellates in the water cause any movements made by you, a boat's motor or passing fish to produce an electric shade of lime green. And when you jump off the boat for a swim in the shallow water, you and your friends will light up like Tinkerbell.

Insider's tip: The unassuming little restaurant at the marina serves excellent seafood prepared to traditional Jamaican recipes. Whole fish with brown sauce is particularly tasty.

Tasting tours

Native son Alrick Allen makes it his mission to introduce intrepid visitors to the true taste of Jamaica during private tours to some of the more local eating establishments around Montego Bay. He might take you to a Rasta cook shop to try vegetarian specialties like ackee and callaloo, or bring you to a Jamaican patty shop to sample the favorite local fast food. There are stops at local fruit stands to try pineapple, mango or whatever else happens to be in season. And a highlight comes when you greet local fishermen on the beach as they bring in the day's catch — then head to a nearby restaurant for a seafood feast.

Insider's tip: For more excellent seafood that's not on Alrick's tour, set your sights on an ocean-front meal at Far Out Fish Hut, near Falmouth on the North Coast Highway (no website). Start with some fish soup or grilled conch, then point to the lobster of your liking for a king's grilled meal at a pauper's price.

Rockhouse Hotel

This beautiful hotel on the cliffs in Negril's west end is a perennial contender for the Caribbean's best boutique property. And now there's even more incentive to settle in for a stay — or at least a spa treatment — at Rockhouse. The Holistic Bath House that opened in 2015 in the hotel's award-winning spa is perhaps the most sublime setting in all of the West Indies for an open-air tub soak. Island herbs and spices are employed in the treatments — turmeric as an anti-inflammatory agent, for example, and Jamaican mint in a green energy blend. And you'll soak alone or with a partner (there are two deep soaking tubs) in the privacy of a beautiful wooden villa that's open to the Caribbean breezes.

Insider's tip: The Rockhouse has several restaurants on-site, but ask the concierge to book you a taxi to visit Just Natural, a hideaway vegetarian and seafood restaurant set amongst illuminated gardens at night.

TERRY WARD

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Tough decisions lie ahead for Phils

Who will join 2015 standout Odubel Herrera in the outfield this season? GETTY IMAGES

Some key position battles in Clearwater will determine who makes the 25-man roster in April.

ZANE STALBERG
@MetroPhilly
sports@metro.us

When Phillies' pitchers and catchers reported to camp Thursday, it marked the first step in a future that will be defined by the performance of young talent. Gone are the days of Chase Utley and Jimmy Rollins, which will allow room for a wide array of competition and make the Phillies one of the most interesting teams to watch all spring. The most compelling position battles are as follows:

1 Fifth starter

The top four spots in Philadelphia's rotation will likely belong to Aaron Nola, Jerad Eickhoff, Jeremy Hellickson and Charlie Morton, but manager Pete Mackanin has at least four viable options for the fifth spot in his rotation. All four of those pitchers (David Buchanan, Vincent Velasquez, Adam Morgan and Brett Oberholtzer) are major league caliber pitchers. As a result, some of them will be fighting for their spots in the organization. Philadelphia will not keep major league arms in developmental spots in the minor leagues, which will likely make this Mackanin's toughest decision.

2 Fourth outfielder

Another position where the Phillies have a surplus of talent is the outfield. Between Peter Bourjos, Odubel Herrera, Tyler Goeddel, Cody Asche and Aaron Altherr, Philadelphia has five outfielders and only four spots on the roster. Bourjos, who is one of the elite defensive outfielders in baseball, and Odubel Herrera, who had a breakout year in 2015, are all but locks for the roster. However, the Phillies face tough decisions in regards to whether Asche or Altherr is more deserving of a roster spot, or if Goeddell, who, as a Rule 5 pick, must make the roster or be cut, is worth retaining.

3 Backup catcher

At 22, Jorge Alfaro is probably a little too raw to make the Opening Day roster. However, as the eighth-ranked prospect in the Phillies' system, according to Baseball Prospectus, the young catcher has an opportunity to unseat Cameron Rupp as the second catcher on Philadelphia's roster behind Carlos Ruiz. It will be worth watching to see if Alfaro can live up to some of that potential early on, as he was one of the most notable pieces acquired in the Cole Hamels trade.

4 Closer

Matt Klentak, Philadelphia's new general manager, decided in the offseason that a good bullpen on a 70-win team was not valuable. So he traded his elite, young closer, Ken Giles. As a result, the Phillies are left with a group of veteran relievers vying for one of the least valuable positions on the current team. While the closer's role will lack importance in 2016, the healthy competition between pitchers like Andrew Bailey, Edward Mujica and Dalier Hinojosa could serve to provide Klentak with valuable arms for when Philadelphia is closer to contention.

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Bradford watch: Eagles plan to talk to QB's agent this week

Doug Pederson is still optimistic that Sam Bradford wants to stay in Philadelphia.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

The Eagles decisions in the draft depend a great deal on whether Sam Bradford is still in the picture. GETTY IMAGES

Finally, some concrete information.

No, the Eagles have not struck a deal with Sam Bradford. No they have not announced a decision on their intention with the quarterback spot, but Howie Roseman says he expects to meet with Bradford's agent this week. That's something, right?

"When you have pending free agents you get to see people eye to eye and talk them up," Roseman said at the NFL Combine Wednesday. "We will be running into [Bradford's agent] Tom Condon in the next couple days."

Reports in January said that Condon wanted around $25 million for Bradford, but it would make sense for him to lower his asking price now as February nears an end. The market for him is just not as big as it was during the season.

Money aside, Doug Pederson thinks Bradford wants to come back.

"Being in his shoes, you have to want to be somewhere," the coach said, "and I think Sam wants to be in Philadelphia.

"The fact that he himself put himself in a leadership role toward the end of the season proves to me he can handle this role and start."

As for the other quarterback on the roster? Not so fast on those rumors that Mark Sanchez will be the next to be cut (it was DeMeco Ryans, who was let go earlier Wednesday). Sanchez might just play out his contract after all.

"He's another veteran guy you'd like to have at the backup quarterback position," Pederson, a career NFL backup himself, said. "In today's football it helps to have two guys. The fact that a QB can't stay healthy sometimes for 16 games, having a guy like Mark on your roster helps that."

Nelson Agholor, last year's first round pick disappointed a bit his rookie season. But Pederson sees a lot of Jeremy Maclin in Agholor, possibly a potent weapon for whoever mans the quarterback position in 2016.

"Love everything about him," Pederson said. "What he stands for as a person, he's young, I think he can fit that type of [Maclin-like] role."

As for drafting a quarterback? Well, Pederson has an opinion on that too. And it comes down to leadership ability.

"How can they convince 10 guys in the huddle?" he said. "How can they convince Jason Peters to believe in them? I want to see that."

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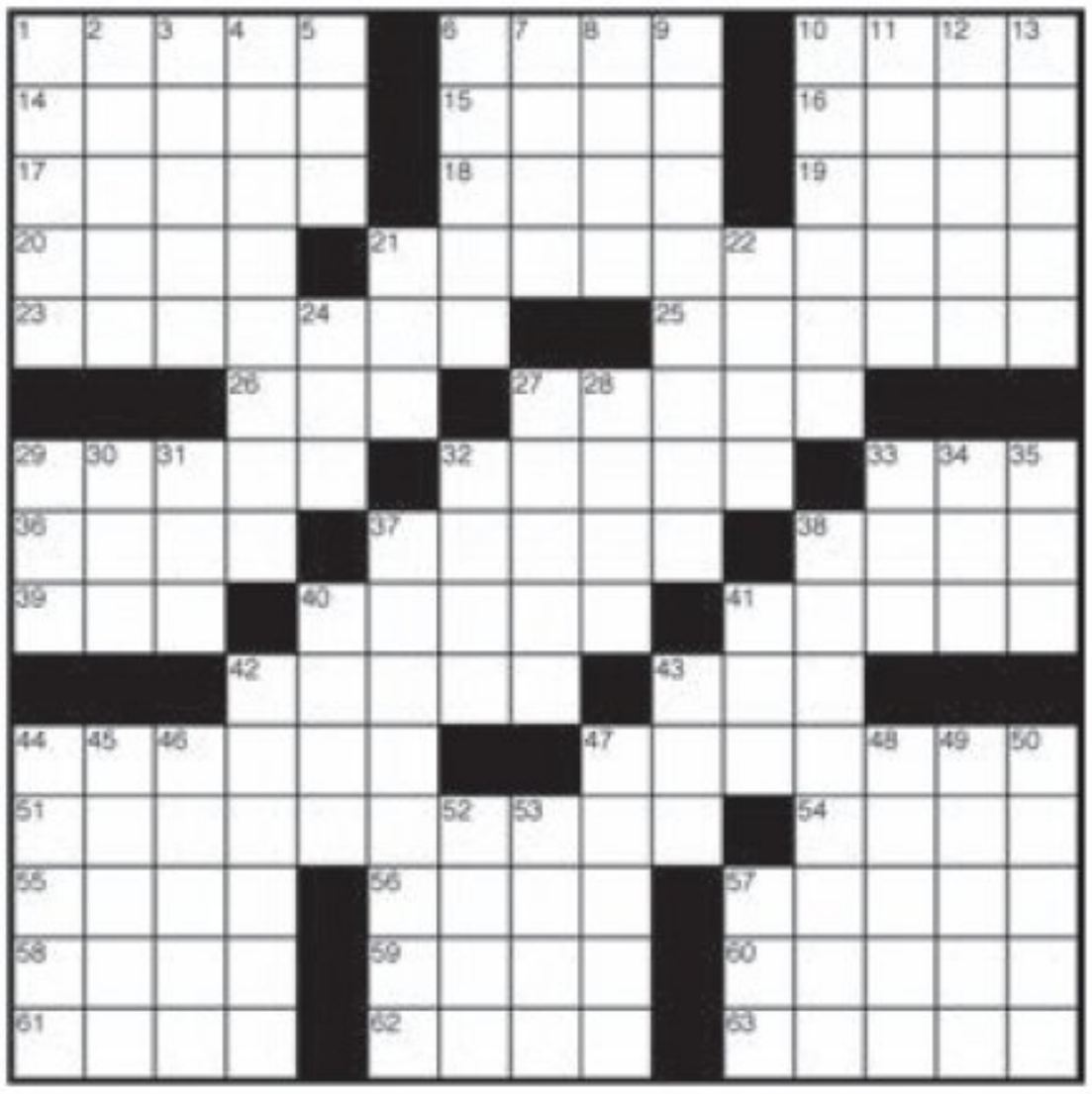

Across
1 Warming drink
6 — 1 (speed of sound)
10 Iffy attempt
14 Sky blue
15 Melville novel
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3	2		9					

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Aries Taking on too much will spark your emotions and cause you to lose focus. You need to prioritize in order to overcome any feelings of incompetence.

Taurus Listen attentively. You have more to gain from being a spectator than a participant. Learn, summarize and prepare to bring about changes that will help you advance.

Gemini Your success rate will climb if you put your best foot forward and stay true to your beliefs and abilities. Putting forth your best effort will lead to victory.

Cancer Make interesting changes to your home. Emotional issues will arise, but if you are sensitive to other people's suggestions, you will end up satisfying everyone's needs.

Leo Make a commitment to someone you cherish in order to bring about positive change. Sharing your plans will allow you to do something special.

Virgo Refuse to be tempted by a sales pitch or an investment that sounds too good to be true. Limit your spending, and focus more on creating a stable domestic situation.

Libra Love, romance, friendship and relaxation should take top priority. Share your feelings and make personal improvements to your lifestyle.

Scorpio Explore new possibilities and consider how you can make a difference to a cause you believe in. Your input and hands-on help will lead to greater acknowledgment.

Sagittarius Emotional reactions will flare up, along with questionable information that can cause problems between you and a friend or family member. Say little without the facts.

Capricorn Don't try to change others when you should be concentrating on making personal improvements that will help you get ahead. Hone your skills.

Aquarius You'll see things clearly and get the inside scoop. Your insight and imagination will enable you to successfully carry out an ambitious project. Romance is featured.

Pisces Look for a unique way to impress someone you want to get to know better. A kind gesture will speak volumes about the nature of your feelings. EUGENIA LAST

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Mealey's FURNITURE OUTLET

2 DAYS ONLY!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH
Noon - 5pm

We Restock for Saturday!

GREAT MERCHANDISE! UP TO 80% OFF!

Bring a truck or van. Everything is take-with or must be picked up within 48 hours of the sale. Some assembly required. Don't forget your rope and blankets! Everything sold "As-Is". All sales are final. Images are for illustration purposes only.

SAVE BIG ON MATTRESSES

UP TO $50 OFF*

*Restrictions apply. Valid at Mealey's Outlet only. $25 OFF your purchase any twin or full mattress set, or $50 OFF your purchase of any queen or king mattress purchase. One coupon per household. Offers may not be combined. No cash value. Must cut and present coupon at time of purchase. Only valid Feb. 26th and 27th. Styles will vary.

Lilly White Youth Bedroom

Twin Over Twin Bunkbed
sale $699
Slash ~~$445~~
Final $295

Nightstand	Chest	Dresser	Mirror
sale $299	sale $399	sale $599	sale $149
Slash ~~$175~~	Slash ~~$245~~	Slash ~~$345~~	Slash ~~$85~~
Final $95	Final $185	Final $215	Final $55

Bistro 3 Piece Dining Set

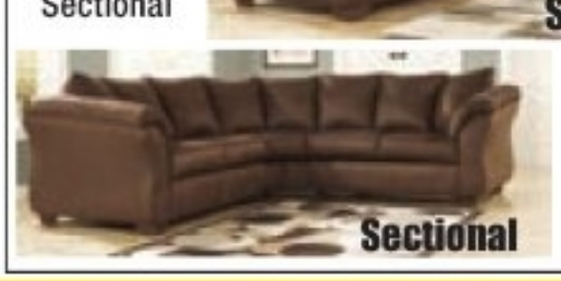
Grey undertones and a rich, chocolate finish create an inviting dining area that is right on trend.

sale $499
Slash ~~$299~~
Final $195

The Darcy Collection

Great styles at the same low price!

Your choice of:
Darcy Sofa & Loveseat or Darcy Sectional



sale $1199
Slash ~~$999~~
Final $695

Explorer 59" Media Fireplace

sale $999
Slash ~~$695~~
Final $495

LIMITED QUANTITIES!

3 Pack Living Room Tables

Coffee table and two matching end tables. While supplies last!

sale $499
Slash ~~$299~~
Final $195

Mattress MADNESS!

2014 DISCONTINUED & FLOOR SAMPLE BLOWOUT!

FIRM, PLUSH AND PILLOWTOP

Twin Sets from $195
Queen Memory Foam Sets from $495
Queen Firm Sets from $295
Queen Super Pillow Top Sets from $595
Queen Plush Sets from $395

Maxwell Bedroom Collection

Lots of value! Lots of storage space!

Sultry grey finish with a storage bookcase headboard and footboard.

Nightstand	5 Drawer Chest	Dresser & Mirror	Queen Bed
sale $399	sale $699	sale $599	sale $799
Slash ~~$255~~	Slash ~~$395~~	Slash ~~$405~~	Slash ~~$595~~
Final $125	Final $195	Final $255	Final $295

1001 New Ford Mill Road - Morrisville, PA 19067 - mealeysfurniture.com - (215) 736-9800

DIRECTIONS VIA ROUTE 1

From PA: Take Route 1 North to the Route 13 South exit. **Then:** Take Route 13 South to the Tyburn Road East exit. The first traffic light is New Ford Mill Road, make a right. Outlet is 3/4 of a mile down the road on the left.

From NJ: Take Route 1 South to the Route 13 South exit.